634

Dixie
Insect

United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Research Administration
Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine

208 Forestry Bldg., C.S.C.
Fort Collins, Colorado
August 9, 1943

Memorandum on Examination of Insect Conditions on the East Fork Sevier River, Powell National Forest, July 31, 1943

On July 31, Mr. Clark Miles of the U. S. Forest Service Regional Office, Division of Timber Management and the writer made a roadside and vantage point observational survey of the Black Hills beetle situation in the ponderosa pine type on the East Fork of the Sevier River on the Powell National Forest. A route was taken up the river from Daves Hollow Ranger Station as far south as Sisler Creek, thence back to the mouth of Podunk Creek up the road on Podunk Creek to the end of the paved road in Bryce Canyon National Park and ~~return~~ and north through the Park to the starting point.

The observed number of red tops (1942-attacked trees) on this trip as compared with the observation of red tops last year indicates that the infestation is on the increase. A considerable number of red tops were scattered throughout most of the area with a tendency toward grouping of attacks.

The units treated during the past insect control year and observed on this trip appeared to be quite clean. The units covered and number of trees treated by the Forest Service during the past year are as follows:

Horse Creek	516	trees
Park	1,187	"
Sweetwater	41	"
Blue Fly	456	"
Total	2,200	trees

The observational survey on July 31 indicates that an intensive fall survey should be made on about the same areas that were surveyed last year. With the drought conditions continuing in this growing season, it is probable that there will be another increase in the 1943-attacked trees. The control work carried out by the Forest Service during the past year under the man-power conditions now prevailing is highly commendable.

Because of the large amount of host material available in mature and overmature trees it will be necessary to hold the infestation at a low level in order to prevent heavy losses. Particularly is this true during the present drought period on the Powell. Much of the volume on the East Fork of the Sevier River is ready for harvest. Until this harvest is made considerable effort may be necessary to save the crop from the Black Hills beetle.

Submitted by

N. D. WYGANT, Entomologist